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Borders in Play Lesson Plans

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2017

### Grace Pilz Lesson Plan 4

Grace Pilz

*Kenyon College*

Madi Maldonado

*Kenyon College*

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Review **“Tomás and the Library Lady”**

- Tomás has to deal with moving from Texas to Iowa every year. He loves to listen and tell stories, so he goes to the library! He meets the Library lady and they teach each other (Spanish language and genres of books). Passion for reading! Straddling two cultures.

**“The Bully” poem by Guadalupe Garcia McCall**

- I. Pre-Reading
  - A. Do we have any predictions about this poem based on the title?
  - B. Has anyone ever been around a bully?
- II. Post Reading Questions
  - A. Characters
    - 1. What are traits of the main character?
    - 2. Traits of the father?
    - 3. Traits of the bully?
  - B. Theme of Bullying
    - 1. What are some forms of bullying that exist?
    - 2. Is violence the answer? Did it help this character?
    - 3. Have you ever tried to prove to someone that you can do something?
    - 4. Why do you think she was bullied? (no reason)
    - 5. How do you think she feels after her dad calls her dumb?
      - a) Hurt pride, ashamed, belittled

**“A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings” by Gabriel García-Marquéz**

**\*\*Assign students topics to think about while we read (themes, characters, plot, magical realism, treatment of the Very Old Man, the representation of The Church)\*\***

- I. Pre-Reading
  - A. Talk about “magical realism”
    - 1. Realistic view of the world with magical elements included
    - 2. Does “All Summer in a Day” sound like magical realism?
- II. Post Reading Questions
  - A. Give a brief summary of the plot including characters. What is the conflict?
  - B. How do the people treat the Very Old Man and why? How would it make you feel to be treated this way?
  - C. What are some scenes or characteristics that we can point to that make this story “magical realism”?
  - D. What are some themes from the story and where/how do we see them?
    - a. Mistreatment of people who are different
    - b. Greed

c. Fear of "The Other"

E. What does the author think of the Church?

F. What Would you have done if you discovered the Very Old Man in your courtyard?

III. Draw a scene from the story. Be sure to capture the emotions of the characters through color and facial expression.